

	<p><b>General Anesthesia for Dental Procedures in Members 6 years old and Younger</b></p>	
<p><b>Guideline #</b> 8432</p>	<p><b>Categories</b> Clinical → Care Management CM, TCHP Guidelines</p>	<p><b>This Guideline Applies To:</b> Texas Children's Health Plan</p>
	<p><b>Document Owner</b> Andrea Canady</p>	

**GUIDELINE STATEMENT**

Texas Children's Health Plan (TCHP) performs authorization of all requests for General anesthesia during dental procedures in members 6 years old and younger and the associated facility fees for members in the STAR/STAR Kids Product.

**PRIOR AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINES**

1. TCHP does not require prior authorization for general anesthesia during dental procedure in members who are 7 through 20 years of age when it is provided by in-network practitioners/providers, unless the member scores less than 22 points on the Criteria for Dental Therapy Under General Anesthesia form or exceeds the need for general anesthesia more than once per 6 months.
2. All requests for prior authorization for general anesthesia during dental procedure are received via fax, phone, online submission or mail by the Utilization Management Department and processed during normal business hours.
3. The Utilization Management professional receiving the request evaluates the submitted information to determine if the documentation supports the request as an eligible service.
4. To request prior authorization for general anesthesia during dental procedures in members 6 years old and younger, the following documentation must be provided:
  - 4.1. Location where the procedure will be performed
  - 4.2. Narrative detailing the reason for the proposed level of anesthesia
  - 4.3. Proof of authorization for the dental services from the Dental maintenance organization (DMO) for STAR/STAR Kids members.

5. The use of general anesthesia services during the delivery of dental services is considered **medically necessary** when any of the following criteria are met:
  - 5.1. Children (up to 20 years of age) when in-office conscious sedation has failed or is clinically contraindicated; OR
  - 5.2. Medically compromised patients whose medical history indicates that the monitoring of vital signs or the availability of resuscitative equipment is necessary during dental procedures; OR
  - 5.3. Individuals requiring extensive dental procedures with a medical history of uncontrolled bleeding, severe cerebral palsy or other medical condition that renders conscious sedation in the office not medically appropriate; OR
  - 5.4. Individuals requiring extensive dental procedures who have documentation of significant behavioral health conditions or psychiatric disorders that require special treatment (for example, severe panic disorder); OR
  - 5.5. Cognitively disabled individuals requiring extensive procedures whose prior history indicates general anesthesia is appropriate; OR
  - 5.6. Children requiring repair of cleft lip or palate.
  
6. Scoring 22 points on the Criteria for Dental Therapy Under General Anesthesia form does not guarantee authorization or reimbursement for clients who are six years of age and younger. Proof of authorization from the Dental Maintenance Organization must be provided.
  
7. Requests that do not meet the criteria established by this procedure will be referred to a TCHP Medical Director for review and the Denial Policy will be followed.
  
8. Billing considerations: TCHP requires prior authorization for general anesthesia (00170) in advance of dental related anesthesia services and prior authorization for the facility fee (41899). Appropriate Modifiers should be used as per the current TMPPM at the time of the request.

**REFERENCES:**

**Government Agency and Medical Society, and Other Publications:**

**Last approved by the Clinical & Administrative Advisory Committee: 01/16/2020**

- American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Technical Report 2-2012: An Essential Health Benefit: General Anesthesia for Treatment of Early Childhood Caries. Available at: <http://www.aapd.org/assets/1/7/POHRPCTechBrief2.pdf>. Accessed on February 18, 2015.
- American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. *Parameters of Care: Clinical Practice Guidelines for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Patient Assessment and Anesthesia in Outpatient Facilities. 2012.* Available at: <http://www.aaoms.org/>. Accessed on February 18, 2015.
- American Society of Anesthesiologists. Continuum of Depth of Sedation: Definition of General Anesthesia and Levels of Sedation/Analgesia. 2014. Available at: <http://www.asahq.org/resources/standards-and-guidelines/search?q=continuum>. Accessed on May 4, 2015.
- Sherwood ER, Williams CG, Prough DS. Anesthesiology principles, pain management, as conscious sedation. In: Sabiston Textbook of Surgery. Townsend Cm, Beauchamp RD, Evers BM, Mattox KL, Eds. 2012. Elsevier Saunders. Philadelphia, PA.
- TMPPM. 4.2.22. Dental Anesthesia; 4.2.23. Dental Therapy Under General Anesthesia. Available at: [http://www.tmhp.com/pages/medicaid/Medicaid\\_Publications\\_Provider\\_Manual.aspx](http://www.tmhp.com/pages/medicaid/Medicaid_Publications_Provider_Manual.aspx)
- Medicaid Managed Care Contracts. Available at: <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/forms.shtml>
- Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. Anesthesia Privileges. Available at: <https://www.tsbde.texas.gov/AnesthesiaPrivileges.html>

**RELATED DOCUMENTS:****REFERENCES:**

Original Creation Date: 08/29/2017	Version Creation Date: 01/15/2020	Effective Date: 02/14/2020
------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	----------------------------